

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-05 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AID-05

OPIC-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 /068 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6406

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 0895

E. O. 11652: N/A (DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT)

TAGS: EAID, IN

SUBJ: INDIAN PRESS COVERAGE OF REPORTS ON U. S. FOOD SALES
TO INDIA

1. ALL NEW DELHI NEWSPAPERS ON JANUARY 18 AND 19 PUBLISHED
ALMOST IDENTICAL VERSIONS OF AN "AP" STORY DATED
WASHINGTON, D. C. QUOTING INDIAN FINANCE MINISTRY C. SUBRA-
MANIAM AS TELLING NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS ON JANUARY 17
THAT "THE UNITED STATES HAS AGREED TO SELL ONE MILLION TONS

(METRIC TONS) OF WHEAT WORTH \$170 MILLION TO INDIA THIS
YEAR", AND THAT "ONE-HALF OF THE GRAIN WOULD BE MADE AVAIL-
ABLE NOW AND THE BALANCE BEFORE THE END OF JUNE, SUBJECT TO
FINAL ALLOCATIONS BY THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE."
SUBRAMANIAM WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "INDIA IS IN NEED
OF THREE MILLION TONS OF FOODGRAINS BY THE END OF JUNE."

2. THE STORIES CONTINUE, APPARENTLY STILL FROM AP THAT:

"U. S. OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIRMED ONLY THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE
UNDERWAY ON 300,000 TONS OF U. S. WHEAT FOR INDIA WITH THE
AGREEMENT EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED SHORTLY.

"THE U. S. FOOD AGREEMENT WITH INDIA MARKS THE RE-

SUMPTION OF FOOD SALES FOR CONCESSIONARY PRICES FOR THE FIRST
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TIME IN MORE THAN THREE YEARS."

3. THERE HAS AS YET BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE NEWS
ITEM.

SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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